institutions as part of the LindenPointe project in addition to bringing five degree completion partners to Butler's main campus. As dean, he was instrumental in the development of the Praxis Preparation program, which has helped more than 3,000 students and attained a remarkable 95 percent passing rate since its introduction. Prior to his arrival at BC3, he chaired the Communication Department at Marist College where he created a sports communication degree and was recognized by the Office of Special Services for his efforts for students with disabilities.

Dr. Neupauer's contributions to Pennsylvania's Third Congressional District go beyond those made as an administrator and professor. Dr. Neupauer participates in many service activities, including United Way Day of Caring, Pittsburgh Area K–16 Council, and Butler P.M. Rotary. In the 2003–2004 school year, he was named an ''Outstanding Service and Community Achievement'' recipient for administrators at BC3.

I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Dr. Nicholas Neupauer and wishing him the best of luck in his new position as president of Butler County Community College. Pennsylvania's Third Congressional District is fortunate to have such a dedicated person to educate our youth and develop the future leaders of our district, State and Nation.

TRIBUTE TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I am proud to congratulate the Republic of Korea on the 89th anniversary of the March 1 Independence Movement against Japan's colonial rule.

It is especially fitting for Americans to join Koreans in celebrating this day. Many believe that the Fourteen Points, outlined by U.S. President Wilson at the Paris Peace Conference, helped to inspire the Samil Movement to protest against the restrictive Japanese government.

On March 1, 1919, hundreds of Koreans participated in peaceful rallies to promote liberation. Some were upset by the burdensome taxation system that often led to famine or slavery. Many Korean Christians, including entire churches, protested the strict religious regulations enforced by the Japanese.

Across the country, nationalist leaders simultaneously read the independence declaration out loud in public. These readings motivated thousands of demonstrators to join the cause of freedom, and the movement grew. The Japanese responded by killing thousands of protestors. In at least one case, Korean men were driven into a church and burned alive. However, it took the Japanese 12 months, and the assistance of the army and navy, to quell the uprising. In the end, the Japanese government was forced to adopt more lenient measures.

The United States has been proud to stand with the people of the Republic of Korea as they confronted oppression, solidified their democracy, and became part of the vibrant Asian economy. Even after independence is gained, it must be carefully guarded. Brave citizens must be willing to sacrifice their lives in order to protect liberty. Just as both of our nations have struggled to survive after the initial moment of independence was earned, we must continue to foster the causes of freedom and democracy.

Again, I congratulate the Korean people on this historic celebration. This anniversary is a time to remember the sacrifices of the past, to take pride in your nation, and to look ahead to a future of promise.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 86, H.R. 3936—The ''Sgt. Jason Harkins Post Office'' Designation Act, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea.''

MISSILES AND SATELLITES

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, starting in WWII the Army recognized a need for defense against the German's A4, the world's first ballistic missile. In that time the allies' only defense against the A4 was to destroy or occupy its launch site. Some accounts state that if the war lasted another year, the German Army would have had the technology to develop a ballistic missile that could reach New York City. During the war, General Sir Fredrick Pile, Chief of Britain's Anti-Aircraft command, developed a system using 12,000 rounds of anti-aircraft artillery with only 3 percent accuracy. We have since come a long way in missile defense.

During the Cold War spurred on by a continued threat to our soil, Ronald Reagan called ''upon the scientific community, those who gave us nuclear weapons, to turn their great talents to the cause of mankind and world peace to give our country the means of rendering these nuclear weapons impotent and obsolete.''

Our Nation was able to use this technology once again, as Reagan had intended to keep safe the citizens of not just the United States, but this time an unknown country that could have come in direct contact with a disabled spy satellite and its dangerous 1,000 pound tank full of hydrazine fuel.

This mission was to be precisely executed with a direct hit to bus sized satellite's heart, a fuel tank. Hydrazine fuel could be compared to ammonia and would be dangerous should the intact satellite land anywhere in the world near a populated area. The U.S. military did not take this mission lightly, taking every precaution to protect the unfortunate country that would have fallen victim to this freefalling piece of space junk. A Standard Missile 3, or SM–3, costs $10 million and with another $20 million spent on missile reconfiguration for this specific task, the project cost around $30 million.

A broken down satellite does not float lazily 130 miles above the Pacific Ocean; it rockets through space at 17,000 miles per hour. The precision and timing have to be perfect to strike an object at such a great distance and speed. The SM–3 missile travels at around 6,000 miles per hour and was launched from the USS Lake Erie in the North Pacific. When the missile was fired at 10:26 p.m. Eastern Time, only 3 minutes elapsed until it hit its intended above atmosphere target. Approximately 10 minutes after the missile was launched it was confirmed ''highly likely'' that impact was made on the satellite's fuel tank. When the missile struck the satellite at a combined speed of 22,000 miles per hour there was a great burst. Marine General James Cartwright, vice-chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, took this burst as an 80–90 percent chance that the missile hit its intended target, the fuel tank, because the missile was not armed with a warhead.

This giant piece of metal and gas would have done major environmental and physical damage when it eventually found a landing pad on earth. However due to accurate military technology, and exact execution scientists are now monitoring 3,000 pieces of satellite, none larger than a football, that are all expected to burn up in the earth's atmosphere before they reach the earth's surface.

The U.S. military's innovation and ingenuity is unmatched in the world. This launch was an unprecedented real world test of the United States' missile defense system so extraordinary that defense secretary Robert Gates, not a lower ranking military official had to give the launch order. Secretary Gates said in response to the direct hit ''I think the questions over whether this (missile defense system) capability works has been settled.''

And that's just the way it is.

NORTHWEST KIDNEY CENTERS SEATAC FACILITY

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise and congratulate Northwest Kidney Centers for the recent completion of their SeaTac facility. Located near the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, the new facility provides additional medical surge capacity at a moment's notice to communities facing a major public health emergency.

With ever-increasing numbers of obese and diabetic Americans, organizations such as Northwest Kidney Centers offer an unparalleled number of services to patients in need of critical, advanced care. Hundreds of dialysis staff and nephrologists are equipped and prepared for any emergency, and the new facility's innovative design allows additional dialysis stations to be activated at any time. The new facility will no doubt play an integral role in the lives of countless Northwest residents who depend on kidney therapy to live quality lives—and to enable them to spend more time with their families and friends.

The new Northwest Kidney Centers' SeaTac Facility is a perfect example of a successful State and Federal partnership, and it will be a significant asset to our communities. All of us